

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Final Office Action mailed April 19, 2005 and the Advisory Action mailed July 11, 2005. Reconsideration of this application in view of the below remarks is respectfully requested. Claims 2-5 and 7-10 are pending in the application with Claims 2 and 7 being in independent form.

I. Rejection of Claims 2-5 and 7-10 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 2-5 and 7-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for allegedly being unpatentable over Japanese Patent Application No. 08-314389 issued to Sugimura et al. (hereinafter, "Sugimura et al.") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,002,582 issued to Yeager et al. (hereinafter, "Yeager et al."). Claims 2 and 7 have been amended in a manner believed to clarify the inventive aspects of the present invention.

In part, presently amended Claim 2 recites: "a step of non-movably holding said display panel in said panel-mounting case with at least two holding members, disposed at different positions from each other and fastened to said inner main-face of said panel-mounting case, at least one second spacer being provided between at least one of said at least two holding members and a lower outer side face of said display panel for positioning and non-movably holding said display panel along its up-and-down direction panel." (Emphasis added)

As asserted in the previous response, Sugimura et al. fails to disclose or suggest the structural elements of the present invention, as recited in Claim 7 and similarly recited in Claim 2.

Additionally, Applicant had previously asserted that Yeager et al. does not disclose the spring fingers performing any fixative function, and in fact, spring fingers for making contact in 'the known manner' as disclosed in Yeager et al. are designed to mold themselves to the LCD

panel without exerting undo pressure by compressing under the force exerted by the mounted LCD panel, thus they would not have the structural rigidity to hold the LCD panel in a fixed position, especially when the panel is actively opened and closed, or jostled.

Further, based on the figures, Yeager et al. requires a plurality of pairs of spring fingers 60 facing each other. In contrast, the second spacer 5 recited in Applicant's Claims 2 and 7 does not require a pair of components. The second spacer 5 is inserted between the holding member and a lower outer side face of said display panel in order to position and firmly hold the display panel along its up-and-down direction panel.

Regarding Examiner's remarks put forward in the Advisory Action, it should be noted that the 1996 edition of *Merriam-Webster's Dictionary of Law* defines the term "fix" as meaning: to make firm, stable, or stationary. Therefore an elastic body or device (i.e., a spring), which recovers its original shape when released after being distorted, cannot reasonable be thought to make firm, stable or stationary as "being distorted" clearly implies not being firm, stable or stationary.

However, in an effort to further clarify the structure of the claimed invention, Claims 2 and 7 have been amended such that "fixedly" as been replaced with "non-movably". Based on the Examiner's definition for a spring, a spring finger does not hold an LCD panel non-movably, since by definition, springs are elastic bodies, which recover their original shape when released after being distorted. Accordingly, a spring finger has a range of motion including a fully stretched shape, an original shape and a fully compressed shape, and thus an LCD panel affixed to a spring finger would also move within the limits of the spring finger range of motion.

Therefore, for at least the reasons presented above, Claims 2 and 7 are believed patentably distinct over the cited prior art references.

With regards to Claims 3-5 and 8-10, these claims are dependent from Independent Claims 2 and 7 and therefore are limited by the language recited by those independent claims. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection to Claims 2-5 and 7-10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Sugimura et al. in view of Yeager et al. and allowance thereof.

CONCLUSIONS

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all claims presently pending in the application, namely, Claims 2-5, 7-10 are believed to be in condition for allowance and patentably distinguishable over the art of record.

If the Examiner should have any questions concerning this communication or feels that an interview would be helpful, the Examiner is requested to call Applicant's undersigned attorney at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



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